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# **News Release**

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## **2 Mexican nationals indicted for producing fraudulent documents, identity theft**

Two Mexican nationals were indicted this week in federal court in connection with producing fraudulent identification documents.

Mateo Gomez Rosales, unknown age, unknown address, was charged July 7 in Minneapolis with one count of production of fraudulent documents, one count of aggravated identity theft, and one count of transferring of a fraudulent document-making implement.

Rodrigo Rodriguez Zambrano, unknown age, unknown address, was charged July 7 in Minneapolis with one count of transferring fraudulent documents, one count of aggravated identity theft and one count of transferring of a fraudulent document-making implement.

Their superseding indictment alleges that on March 11 Zambrano did knowingly transfer identification documents and false identification documents, specifically a counterfeit United States Resident Alien card and a counterfeit U.S. Social Security card, knowing that such documents were produced without lawful authority. It also alleges that on March 11 Zambrano did knowingly use, transfer and possess without lawful authority a means of identification of another person, specifically the Alien Registration Number of an adult man.

Rosales, the indictment alleges, did knowingly and without lawful authority to produce identification documents or false identification documents on March 11, specifically the counterfeit alien and Social Security cards, knowing that such documents were produced without lawful authority. It also alleges that on March 11 Rosales did knowingly use, transfer and possess without lawful authority a means of identification of another person, specifically the Alien Registration Number of an adult man.

The indictment also alleges that on April 2 both men did knowingly transfer a document-making implement, specifically a laptop computer with the intent of it being used in the production of false identification documents.

According to a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) affidavit, the Southeast Minnesota Narcotics and Gang Task Force learned that Rosales was trafficking counterfeit identification documents. Authorities arranged a meeting with Rosales to order some fraudulent documents.

Police made several purchases of counterfeit Resident Alien and Social Security cards from Rosales and Zambrano on Sept. 14, 2007, Jan. 30, and Feb. 13 at a Rochester apartment.

If convicted, Rosales faces potential maximum penalties of 15 years in prison on the production count; two years on the identity theft count; and 15 years on the transferring count. Zambrano faces potential maximum penalties of 15 years on each transferring count and two years on the identity theft count. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge.

This case is the result of an investigation by ICE, the Southeast Minnesota Narcotics and Gang Task Force and the Rochester Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael A. Dees.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by the defendant. The defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.